GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1469
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2003
DEPLOYMENT OF INDIAN FORCES FOR THE U.N.
T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a recent U.N. Fact-Sheet, India is the 3rd largest provider of peace-keeping forces in the World;

(b) whether the Government have received any request from the United Nations to deploy Indian troops to different parts of the World to work for the U.N.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) Country-wise tally of the total number of peacekeepers participating in U.N. peacekeeping operations is constantly changing, owing to changes in the status of peacekeeping missions. However, India continues to be among the top three contributors to the U.N.

(b) & (c) Yes. From time to time, the United Nations has requested Government to consider contributing personnel to on-going, as well as new peacekeeping operations. Some of the recent requests are with regard to peacekeeping forces for Democratic Republic of Congo, Cyprus and Liberia.The U.N. requests are studied carefully and a decision regarding our participation is taken after a careful examination of various aspects. We have recently, responded positively to a U.N. request, by sending a helicopter contingent of the Indian Air Force to the Democratic Republic of Congo.